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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re the Application of: Akio ISHIKAWA et al.

Group Art Unit: 3625

Serial No.: 09/817,033

Examiner: Naeem U. Haq

Filed: March 27, 2001

Confirmation No.: 7311

For: COMPETITIVE BUYING AND SELLING SYSTEM, ITS CONTROL  
METHOD, AND RECORDING MEDIA HAVING ITS CONTROL  
PROGRAMS RECORDED THEREON

Attorney Docket No.: 010430

Customer Number: 38834

**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

June 10, 2004

Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Official Action dated May 11, 2004.

In the Action, restriction is required between Group (I), Claims 1-8; and Group (II),  
Claims 9-13.

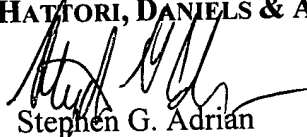
Applicants hereby elect the subject matter of Group (I), Claims 1-8 for prosecution in this  
application. This election is made without traverse, and it is understood that Applicant's rights to  
the filing of a divisional application directed to the non-elected subject matter under 35 U.S.C.  
§120 and 35 U.S.C. §121 are retained.

Response to Restriction Requirement  
Attorney Docket No. 010430  
Serial No. 09/817,033

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

**WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP**



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